

The principal causes which operate to

the owners of slaves in our Territory, and even in the States contiguous, cannot for a moment,

"within their boundary and to capture negroes
"many of whom it is believed are runaway

children, and that this feeling is common among all classes and all political parties.

or more of the Indian negro men were at and near my camp on the Withlacoochie late in

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to appear, on a perusal of the document before me, that General Jessup was unfaithful to his covenant with the Indians, to them, and the negroes connected with them.

Certainly, that he has no direct bearing on the terms of submission. I do not think, because he says, officially, that the negroes *controlled the Indians.*" Being to subdue the enemy, his troops falling a victim to the same fate in which he was the citizens being the same, he has been burned, and his army discouraged, and the order No. 160, to which I will now call attention of the committee. That part I particularly refer to is in the following: "*All Indian property captured from self belong to the corps or detachments of the army.*" In which the word *property* was used in this order. It is in a letter of General Jessup to Colonel dated a few days subsequent, in which, of the Seminoles, he says: "*Their arms, and horses, will be captured. This order is dated the 3d of August, 1837, and is found at page 4 of the documents.*" I refer to this House by the Secretary, of the 27th day of February, 1839.

That history will record, this as the first time that an army in which the catching of slaves was as an incentive to military duty. I consider this fact, and bring it to the consideration of the committee with feelings of deep remorse as an American, I feel humbled at which I have been allowed to give the civilization and otherwise than to demand of a nation. That this officer, entered the command of our army and the honor of the shoulder appeal to the cupidity, the despondent, and the worst of human passions, and that he was to effort, is to be regretted by men of all ages, and of all of our country. Our national flag, stained in proud triumph at Saratoga, is enveloped in a blaze of glory.

ing fugitive slaves is regarded, by people, as a most ignominious sin; so much so, that scarcely a man can who will do it publicly. Yet, it seems that many officers in Florida were openly in it.

At the attention of this committee to that Gen. Jesup's order which places of this nation the character of a nation, boasting of its liberality and equal rights, became a dealer in human slaves to the satisfaction of the Government of the United States in the course of War." On the 10th of 1837, General Jesup wrote the Comd'r of India Affairs, saying, "The Seminoles are the property of the United States, and I have promised Abraham Lincoln, if he prove faithful to us; and I shall hang him if he be not faithful."

Now, I think the people of my district will be as ready to give up the law, as to allow, or the right, to make their slaves

Just at this time, Mr. Watson, being at the appearance of his statements, presided by the Government to purchase the negroes, but he had the Indian title was good and valid and was not considered made to appear with the Creek war, and the fact that Watson had \$1,600, and relieve the honorable Secretary of War, and the nation from the purchase of a great despot. The purchase was effected by the Government, and the high price was paid, and to the midst of a *Christian* and a *Christian* Sir, in order that I may be understood, I will release and sale of the slaves for a moment, and the committee while I relate the history of their trip to the north, and from Florida, immediately after the order of the military, 1837 to Fort Pike near New Orleans, twenty of them were detained by a pretended friend of the living to Georgia, who insisted that they were property of the State of Georgia.

us to be as privileged to those who country
nities. I decide to see this war that I hated
possible women; but I fear it will not be
by the method proposed by the gentleman
Carolins. My own opinion is that all at-
tention should be given to the negroes who
We are told the the negroes are to be
with those negroes, an unconditional surren-
der be a voluntary separation from their rel-
families, and slavery for life. They will
continue until the murder of a white man
army shall proclaim peace to Florida, you
upon other terms. For one, I am prepa-
who will surrender themselves as prisoners
to protect them in the enjoyment of their
liberty, and their domestic relations; and
I have prepared an amendment, which I now

He said that the "one" mentioned in the opening paragraph of the letter was *for one*, founded as it is on the principle of equality, that all men are created equal and that they are certain rational creatures, able to establish justice, it is the first duty of the government to protect them in the exercise of their rights. He said that the "one" mentioned in the second paragraph of the letter was *for one*, to court, to console human nature. He said that the "one" mentioned in the third paragraph of the letter was *for one*, government thus appear before us as such an object. I deny it, and trust I will say so to the interference.

In the case, he said he would not present any evidence, but he would not present a declaration which he could not hope would convince of every intelligent and upright jury member. He was not one of those who would try to agitate one section of the country against another. He said he would not address the court on topics calculated to prejudice or wound the feelings of any.

THE CAPTIVES OF THE AMSTAD.
WASHINGTON CITY, Feb. 22, 1841.

[illegible]

they were there, were kidnapped, carried to lawfully sold there, never subject to the laws of but put by force on board the *Amistad* to the cargo knew not where, as slaves; and in the exercise of liberty natural to all men, they rose, killed the pilot, took possession of the vessel, and determined to return to their own country, as they had a right to do.

On the 2d, 1841, the trial before the District Court, in consequence of which, the District Attorney came on and made his admission that the Africans were British subjects. The court then ordered the *Amistad* to be released, and deemed that the sooner and cargo were returned to their owners, the better. The court then ordered that Gedney and his associates should be released; also, that the negroes were not the proprietors of the *Amistad*, but were free, and having been unlawfully from Africa, should be placed in the hands of the President to be sent back under the Act of Congress.

giving this summary, which took about three hours. Baldwin read his motion to dismiss the party's Constitution and the United States has no right to appeal, or to take any proceedings to protect the rights of the respondents as slaves; 2. That the court do not demand made by the Spanish minister for the return of the respondents as slaves; 3. That the respondents be set at large; 4. That the United States be ordered to pay the costs of the proceedings; and that, in any view, the appeal could not be sustained, and the respondents were not, indeed, the value of \$3000.

On Monday, the Attorney General briefly recapitulated the facts and the substance of the decree of the Court in the case of *Ex parte*, and then the Circuit Court then stated the points which he considered to be settled.

The sitting closed at twenty minutes past one, and the next day the sitting was occupied by Mr. Baldwin, in the afternoon, in arguing the motion to dismiss the appeal.

Argument Mr. Baldwin.
Feb. 23, 1841.

Now, in opening his argument, said that in a
behalf of these miserable Africans, whom he
and who are contending, that the
powerful governments arrayed against them, the
of the high indignation that the question will
be decided by the Executive power, and not by
of Executive power or popular prejudice. By
constitution, it is exempt from all the impur-
of the Executive power, and the Executive
impugnations which he regretted to say, have
unjustly cast in certain quarters, on the Hon.
of the Senate, and the Hon. the Secretary of
was first time in a case of this kind, that
of thirty-three unhappy men, cast by their
of their charges, into circumstances calculated to
of the Government, and the Government
was very early that attempt should have
to the very eye of the trial before the
of the Government, and the Government
to local prejudices and sectional interests.

[illegible]

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[illegible][illegible][illegible]

consequences of this interference. He was implicated in costs, in the Court, which he himself paid. He was in their place, and thus deprive other property in costs, and perhaps damage. He was responsible in damages. No department is able to be more guarded against the Government, than the Judiciary. The Executive is responsible in no way to be the Executive interference, what became in the hands of the Government. The Executive is responsible in no way to be the Executive interference, what became in the hands of the Government. The Executive is responsible in no way to be the Executive interference, what became in the hands of the Government.

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